United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway Eastern District of Missouri

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ST. LOUIS AREA MAN INDICTED FOR FAILING TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER

ST. LOUIS, Missouri - Robert C. Muzio was indicted on federal charges of failing to register as a sex offender, U.S. Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway of the Eastern District of Missouri announced today.

"This is the first prosecution of this statute in the Eastern District of Missouri," said Hanaway. "This is further proof that we will make every effort to protect our children from sexual predators."

Muzio, 63, 2000 block of Victorian Village Drive, St. Louis, 63138, was indicted by a federal grand jury on one felony count of failure to register as a sex offender.

If convicted, Muzio faces a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

Hanaway commended the work on the case by the United States Marshal's Service. Assistant United States Attorney Carrie Costantin is handling the case for the U.S. Attorney's Office.

The charges set forth in an indictment are merely accusations, and each defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.